

Annual Conference of State and Local Health Officials

Nov. 3, 2011



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Commissioner
Department of Health & Senior Services



Public Health



Public Health

- **Public Health is the only discipline that has the primary responsibility for**
 - Ensuring the safety of retail food
 - Conducting communicable disease surveillance and control
 - Enforcing environmental health and sanitation regulations
 - Enforcing public health nuisance codes
 - Providing animal control services
 - Effectively responding to emergencies that affect community health
 - Developing and advocating for laws and regulations that improve the health of the population



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Emergency Preparedness & Response

- Provide state with preparedness, prevention & response capabilities for addressing all public health incidents & emergencies
- H1N1 influenza
 - 42 confirmed H1N1-related deaths
 - 3,657 H1N1 cases (probable & confirmed) reported (btwn 3/09-4/10)
 - More than 1.5M doses of vaccine administered
 - All 100 LHDs held clinics
 - 33,400 calls answered at public call center
- Hurricane Irene & flooding
 - Assistance with shelters
 - Mold remediation
 - Drinking water supply
 - Surface water sampling
 - Retail food safety
 - 41 health care facilities evacuated
 - Public call center – more than 300 calls answered

Healthy New Jersey 2020



- Identify statewide health improvement priorities
- Increase public awareness & understanding of determinants of health, disease & disability, & opportunities for progress
- Provide measurable objectives & goals
- Engage multiple sectors to take action driven by the best evidence & knowledge
- Identify critical research & data collection needs



Public Health Accreditation

- **DHSS will pursue Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) accreditation**
- **Currently:**
 - Assessing readiness for accreditation and compliance with PHAB standards
 - Identifying accreditation champions at all levels of the organization
- **ASTHO site visit 11/14 to provide technical assistance and training**



DHSS Office of Local Public Health Efforts

- Developing one-stop information center for Local Health
 - Online catalog of best practices, local ordinances & a forum for exchange & discussion
- Quick reference directory of key DHSS contacts for use by LHDs
- “News You Can Use” emails from OLPH that provide on-going funding and training opportunities gathered from various sources

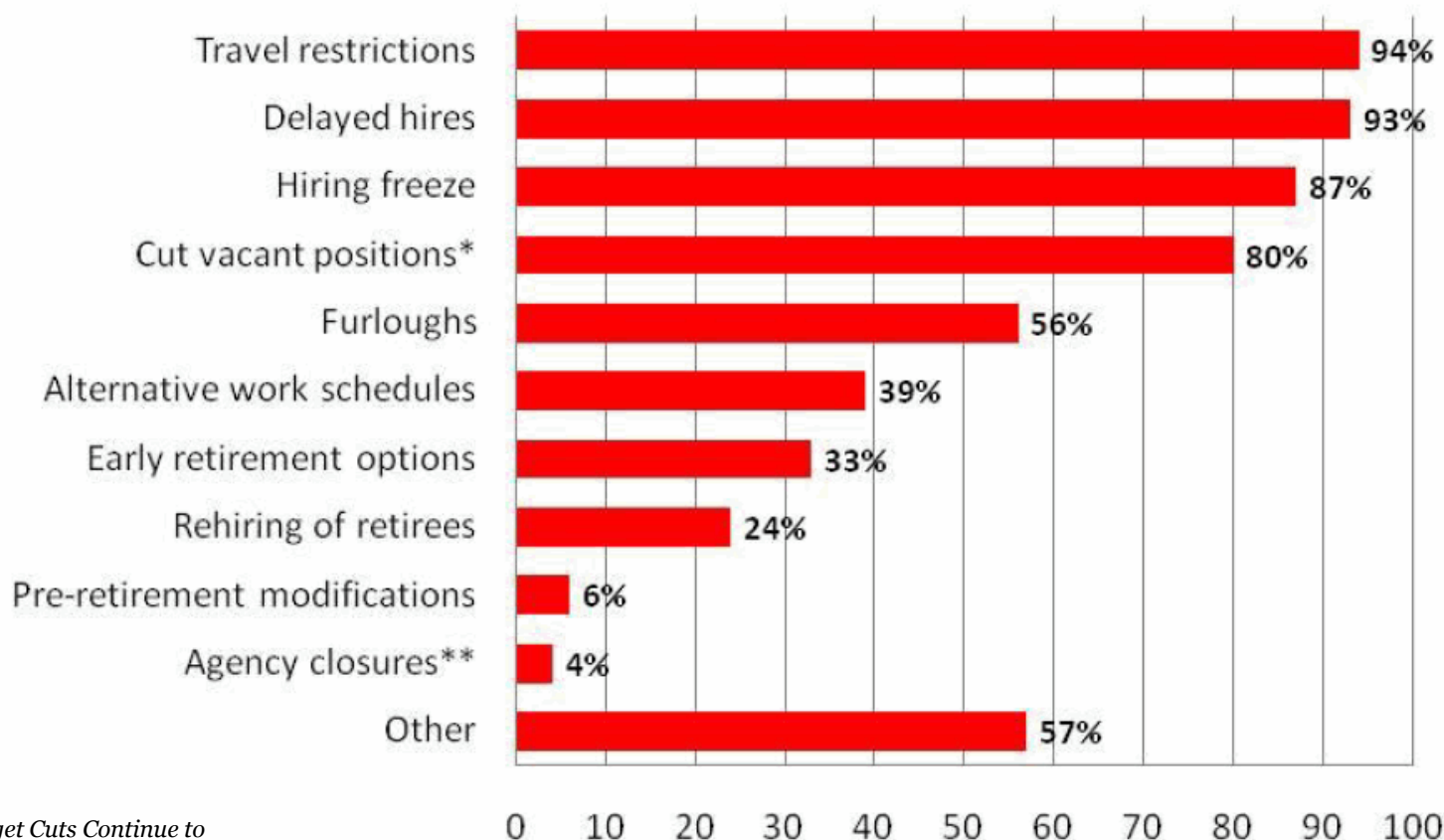


Public Health Funding to Local Health

- **Total of DHSS SFY11 Grants Awarded to 21 NJ County and 18 Local HDs over \$40M**
- **75% Federal Grants; 25% State Grants**
- **Breakout**
 - Epidemiology Grants \$3M
 - AIDS Grants \$2M
 - Aging and Community Services Grants \$600K
 - Family Health Services Grants \$23M
 - PHILEP Preparedness Grants \$12M

Public Health & Economic Challenges

Figure 4. Percentage of SHAs Implementing Cost-saving Strategies (N=54)



Source: ASTHO *Budget Cuts Continue to Affect the Health of Americans: Update May 2011*

Public Health & Economic Challenges

Table 1. Number and Percentage of SHAs with Program Cuts since July 2008 by Program Area (N=54)

	Number with Program Cuts	As % of the Whole
HIV, AIDS and STDs	20	37%
Disease-specific programs (e.g. Heart disease, Parkinsons, Alzheimers, Tuberculosis, Cystic Fibrosis, Asthma, Epilepsy)	17	31%
Tobacco prevention and control	16	30%
Immunization	15	28%
Public health hospitals and clinics	15	28%
Laboratory services	15	28%
Teen pregnancy prevention	14	26%
Workforce and quality improvement	13	24%
Cancer programs	11	20%
Prevention Programs (includes health education & promotion)	11	20%

Source: ASTHO *Budget Cuts Continue to Affect the Health of Americans: Update May 2011*

Public Health & Economic Challenges

- **NJ is experiencing a steady decline in the public health workforce**
 - Decrease in Public Health staffing not limited to NJ: Nationwide phenomenon
- **National decline in public health workforce staffing**
 - Nationally, between 50-75% of LHDs lost staff in 2009-2010 due to layoffs or attrition (NACCHO report)
- **NJ findings from NACCHO report**
 - 53% of LHDs in NJ lost staff July 2009-June 2010
 - 34% experienced reduced staff time (cut hours &/or furloughs)
 - 42% made cuts to at least 1 program; 15% made cuts to 3 or more programs

Managing Challenges

- **Partnerships to achieve goals**
- **Focusing on what works**
 - Evidence-based practices
- **Working smarter**

Key Priorities



Key Priorities

- **Working Smarter**
- **Promoting Healthy People & Healthy Communities**
- **Palliative & End of Life Care**

Working Smarter



Improving operations & enhancing partnerships for greater efficiency

- Universal Transfer Form
- Retail Food Inspection Guidelines Rankings
- Hospital inspections
- SNAP outreach
- PAAD/Senior Gold
- New Rate Setting System for Longterm Care

Healthy People & Healthy Communities Initiatives



Healthy People & Healthy Communities Initiatives

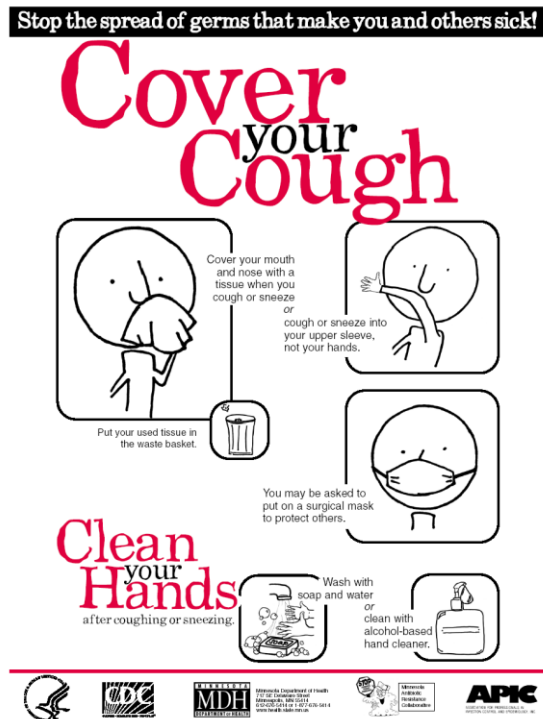
- **Vaccination**
- **Shaping NJ**
- **Take Control of Your Health**
- **Medicare Wellness Campaign**



Flu Vaccination Efforts

Facts

- NJ 2010-11 Flu Season
 - 69,510 individuals visited ER for flu-like illness
 - 6,510 hospitalizations for flu-like illness
 - 54 cases of severe influenza in children with 5 deaths
- Nationally, flu cost businesses \$10.4B



DHSS Initiatives

- DHSS Find a Flu Shot
 - nj.gov/health/flu/
- Awareness Campaign
- Vaccine For Children Program
 - 1.5M doses in 2010



Share this Widget

Shaping NJ

Facts

- Childhood obesity has tripled in past 30 years
- 24% NJ residents are obese
- NJ has highest obesity among low-income 2-5 year olds (17.3%)
- 86% US workers are overweight/obese & have at least one chronic disease
 - Workers missed 450M additional days
 - Resulting in more than \$153B in lost productivity



Shaping NJ Initiative

- 170 partners working to “make the healthy choice, the easy choice”
- Create environments that recognize importance of nutrition & physical activity—where we live, work & play
- 6 local & county health dept. partners
- Community grants - \$135,000
- Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative

Take Control of Your Health

Facts

- 7 of 10 US deaths from chronic diseases
- #1 killer heart disease
- #3 killer stroke
- Chronically ill account for:
 - 78% of total U.S. health care costs
 - 76% of all hospital admissions
 - 88% of all drug prescriptions

Take Control of Your Health is a six-session workshop that gives people with chronic conditions and/or their caregivers the knowledge, skills and confidence to take a more active role in their health care. Workshops are led by certified peer-leaders and are offered free or at low cost.

To find a workshop call 1-800-792-8820.



Feel better. Be in control. Do the things you want to do.

Take Control of Your Health Initiative

- Teach those with chronic illness knowledge, skills & strategies to manage disease
- Outcomes: reduced hospital stays, ER & doctor visits, & better communication with health provider
- To find out how to participate
 - Visit www.state.nj.us/health/senior/cdsmp/
- DHSS has provided grants to community-based organizations & health providers to participate
 - In 2011 \$350,000 to 18 agencies

Medicare Wellness Services



TAKE THE WELLNESS PLEDGE

Now that I know about the new, free and reduced cost preventive benefits offered to individuals enrolled in Medicare Part B, I pledge to call my doctor within the next 30 days to make an appointment for my first free annual wellness visit. At that appointment, I will ask my doctor which preventive benefits are right for me.

X

signature

- **19 free & reduced-cost preventive services covered including:**
 - Free annual wellness visit
 - Cancer screenings
 - Flu vaccinations
 - Cardiovascular blood tests
 - Diabetes screening tests
 - Smoking cessation
 - Nutritional therapy

Visit:

www.wellnesspledge.nj.gov

Call: 1-800-792-8820

Palliative & End of Life



Palliative & End-of-Life Care

- **Dartmouth Atlas**
 - NJ #1 in spending in last 2 years of life
 - #1 in Medicare Specialists visits in last 2 years & 6 months of life
- **Cultural Change/Empowerment**
 - Talk with health care provider & family
 - Develop end-of-life plan
 - Document your wishes
 - Visit: nj.gov/health/advancedirective
- **New Initiatives**
 - POLST
 - NJ Advisory Council on End of Life Care



Questions

